

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 156097
ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-01 /005 R

66011

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:FJTATU

APPROVED BY IO:BSWOPE

EA/K:EHURWITZ

-----064279 060348Z /17

R 060220Z JUL 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 156097

FOL RPT SEOUL 5538 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO BANGKOK, HONG KONG,
JAKARTA, KUALA LUMPUR, MANILA, MOSCOW, PEKING, TAIPEI, TOKYO
DATED 01 JUL 77

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 5538

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: KS, US

SUBJECT: ROK REACTION TO SECRETARY VANCE'S SPEECH

REF: A) SEOUL 5516; G) SEOUL 5426; C) SEOUL 5482

SUMMARY: ROK REACTION TO SECRETARY VANCE'S JUNE 29 SPEECH
WAS MIXED. MOST OBSERVERS EXPRESSED GRATIFICATION FOR REITERA-
TION OF U.S. DEFENSE COMMITMENT AND SOME EXPRESSED CONCERN AT
APPARENT INCOSNISTENCY WITH U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWAL.
END SUMMARY.

1. ROK REACTION TO SECRETARY VANCE'S SPEECH AS OF JULY 1
WAS MIXED. INDEPENDENT MASS CIRCULATION HANKUK ILBO
EDITORIAL WAS CRITICAL OF SPEECH, CHARACTERIZING
SECRETARY'S REASSURANCES ABOUT U.S. DEFENSE COMMITMENT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 156097

AS LARGELY RHETORICAL AND SAYING THAT THERE WAS NO
PROVISION FOR TROOP WITHDRAWAL. EDITORIAL CLAIMED KOREA
NO LONGER TRUSTS U.S. LEADING INDEPENDENT DONG-A ILBO
EDITORIAL WAS SIMILAR TO HANKUK ILBO BUT SOMEWHAT Milder.
THE EDITORIAL SAID THERE WAS NO REASON TO DOUBT SECRETARY
VANCE'S PROMISE OF U.S. DEFENSE COMMITMENT BUT DOUBTS ABOUT
NECESSITY OF TROOP WITHDRAWAL REMAIN. SEMI-OFFICIAL KYONGHYANG

SHINMUN AND INDEPENDENT SIN- ILBO EDITORIALS WERE MILD. BOTH EXPRESSED RELIEF AT SECRETARY'S REITERATION OF DEFENSE COMMITMENT AND SAID U.S.-NORTH-SOUTH KOREA CROSS RECOGNITION FORMULA WAS REASSURING. BOTH EDITORIALS ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER REPORTED REMARKS BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE (REF B). OFFICIAL SEOUL SHINMUN INTERESTINGLY CARRIED NO EDITORIAL ON SECRETARY'S SPEECH APART FROM MOFA'S OFFICIAL STATEMENT (REF A),

2. MOFA AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU DIRECTOR PAK SANG-YONG'S COMMENTS TO POLCOUNS JULY 1 ON SECRETARY'S SPEECH WERE MORE UPBEAT THAN IN CONVERSATION REPORTED REF C. HE SAID THAT SPEECH HAD BEEN GENERALLY WELL RECEIVED AT FOREIGN MINISTRY AND WAS APPRECIATED. HE ADDED THAT HE BELIEVED THAT REACTION AMONG ROK PUBLIC WOULD ALSO BE FAVORABLE. PAK MADE NO REFERENCE TO RESERVATIONS HE HAD EXPRESSED EARLIER. PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT KIM KYONG-WON IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF JULY 1 NOTED WITH APPARENT RELIEF THAT SPEECH HAD CONTAINED NO SURPRISES. HE ADDED WITH A NOTE OF REGRET THAT PRIOR TO FALL OF VIETNAM KOREANS HAD EXCESS OF CONFIDENCE IN U.S. COMMITMENT AND NOW APPEARED TO BE SUFFERING FROM EXCESS OF ANXIETY ABOUT AMERICAN COMMITMENT WHICH SECRETARY'S SPEECH UNFORTUNATELY WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE ABLE TO OVERCOME.

3. IN SUM, ROK REACTION TO SECRETARY'S SPEECH CONTINUES
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 156097

TO BE MIXED. ROK OPINION LEADERS APPEARED TO BE SOMEWHAT REASSURED BUT STILL UNCERTAIN ABOUT ULTIMATE IMPACT OF SPEECH AGAINST BACKGROUND OF PUBLIC CONCERN ABOUT TROOP WITHDRAWAL.
SNEIDER UNQUOTE VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COLLECTIVE SECURITY, PRESS RELEASES, TROOP REDUCTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE156097
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: FJTATU
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770238-1280
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770787/aaaacxoh.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bc723570-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 SEOUL 5516, 77 SEOUL 5426, 77 SEOUL 5482
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1949895
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ROK REACTION TO SECRETARY VANCE'S SPEECH
TAGS: MARR, KS, US, KN, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bc723570-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009